

IX. LAND ACQUISITION

Several factors are considered in determining whether a piece of property is included in the acquisition plan. These include natural resource data, water quality data, existing identified needs, and development/conversion pressure on the property. These needs and threats are evaluated to determine what additional properties may be added to the acquisition plan for the state park. Land acquisition objectives for Lake Waccamaw State Park include: protect the lake and its water quality; provide a land base for access to the river at the dam; protect the Waccamaw River corridor; protect natural communities within the park; provide buffer and logical burn compartments; provide for recreational needs; and aid management of park property.

CURRENT ACQUISITION STATUS

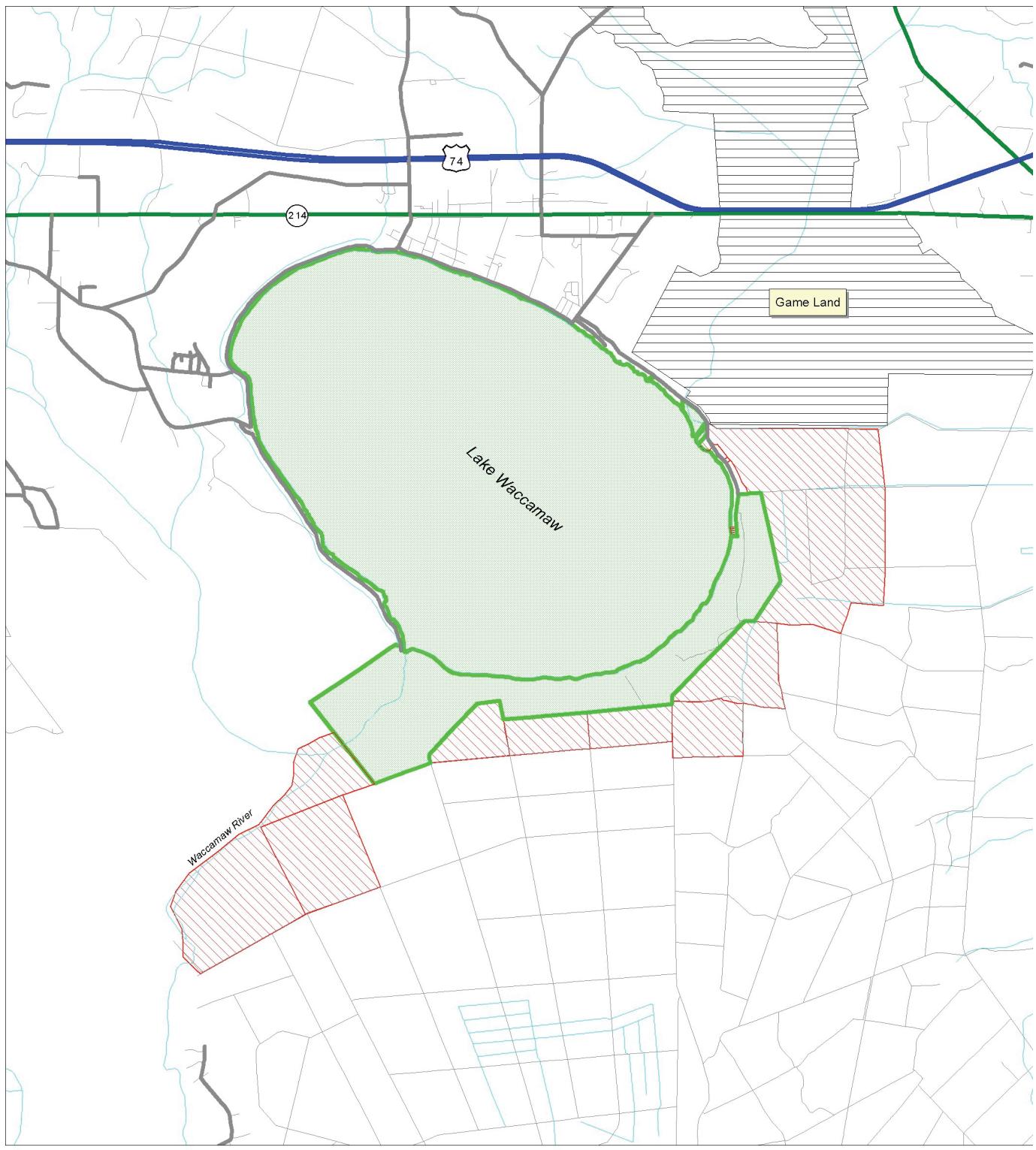
In 2005, Division staff worked on the acquisition of several tracts for inclusion in Lake Waccamaw State Park. Property at Big Creek was acquired in December 2005. Timberland to the east of the park is currently in negotiations, and this tract contains approximately 1,475 acres. In 2003, 12 tracts totaling over 4,000 acres were evaluated in the LEAP Program (Land Evaluation and Acquisition Priority). The land acquisition urgency at that time ranged from Very Low to Medium.

FUTURE ACQUISITION NEEDS

Additional acquisition needs are planned along the existing southern boundary of the park and down the Waccamaw River to improve access control, protect river corridor, protect natural resources and provide good prescribed burn unit boundaries. These properties cover approximately 4,066 acres, including the pending 1,475-acre tract. The existing boat ramp on the east side of Lake Waccamaw is also included in the acquisition plan in order to aid park operations and help meet recreational needs.

ACQUISITION SUMMARY TABLE

Current size of the park- land acres	(January 2006)	1,744 acres
Current size of the park- water acres		8,950 acres
Pending acquisition		1,475 acres
<u>Planned land acquisition needs</u>		<u>2,591 acres</u>
Total planned size of the park		14,760 acres



Lake Waccamaw
State Park

0 0.5 1 1.5 Miles

- [Green square] State Park
- [Red square] Future Need
- [Horizontal lines square] WRC Game Land



December 2005